



Department of Energy

ALBUQUERQUE OPERATIONS
ROCKY FLATS AREA OFFICE
P.O. BOX 928
GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0928

FEB 23 1989

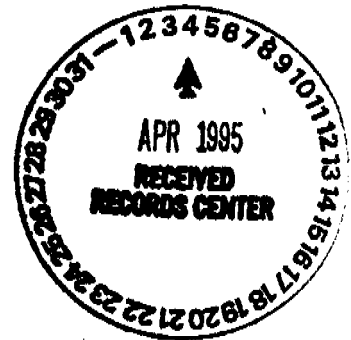


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Mr. Randy Leu
Colorado UST Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII
999 18th Street, Suite 500, 8 WM-C
One Denver Place
Denver, Colorado 80202

Mr. Scott Winters
UST Coordinator
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division
Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220



Gentlemen:

Re: EPA Case No. C89090

The U. S. Department of Energy notified the Colorado Department of Health and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency on February 8, 1989, regarding a spill of No. 6 Fuel Oil which occurred at the Rocky Flats Plant on February 6, 1989. The notifications were made on the 24 hour emergency telephone numbers. Rockwell International also notified the state oil inspector on February 7 since the volume spilled exceeded 25 gallons. This report is provided as a courtesy follow-up to the verbal notifications made on February 8, 1989.

The spill occurred at 7:15 p.m on February 6, 1989 when a utilities operator was transferring No. 6 fuel oil from a holding tank to a smaller "day tank." The day tank is located underground near Building 443. Because the fuel oil is used to generate building heat, the tank is not regulated as an underground storage tank per 40 CFR 280. Approximately 500 gallons of the oil spilled onto the street, sidewalk and earth next to the day tank.

When the spill was discovered, the transfer pump was shut off and the valve was closed. The street was barricaded to prevent spreading of the oil by tracking. Cold ambient temperatures prevented flow of the oil which was easily scraped up on the following day and placed inside of 55 gallon metal drums. The oil will be disposed of at a commercial oil disposal facility as soon as arrangements can be made.

Two corrective actions were taken to prevent recurrence. One action repaired the fill level indicators while the other action involved a procedure change which requires verification that the fill level indicators are working.

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Questions concerning this incident can be directed to Ms. Candice Jierree of my staff on 966-4888 or to Ms. Barbara Greer of Rockwell on 966-7264.

Sincerely,



Albert E. Whiteman
Area Manager

cc:
B. Greer, Rockwell